



GRAIN TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Agricultural Marketing Service
United States Department of Agriculture



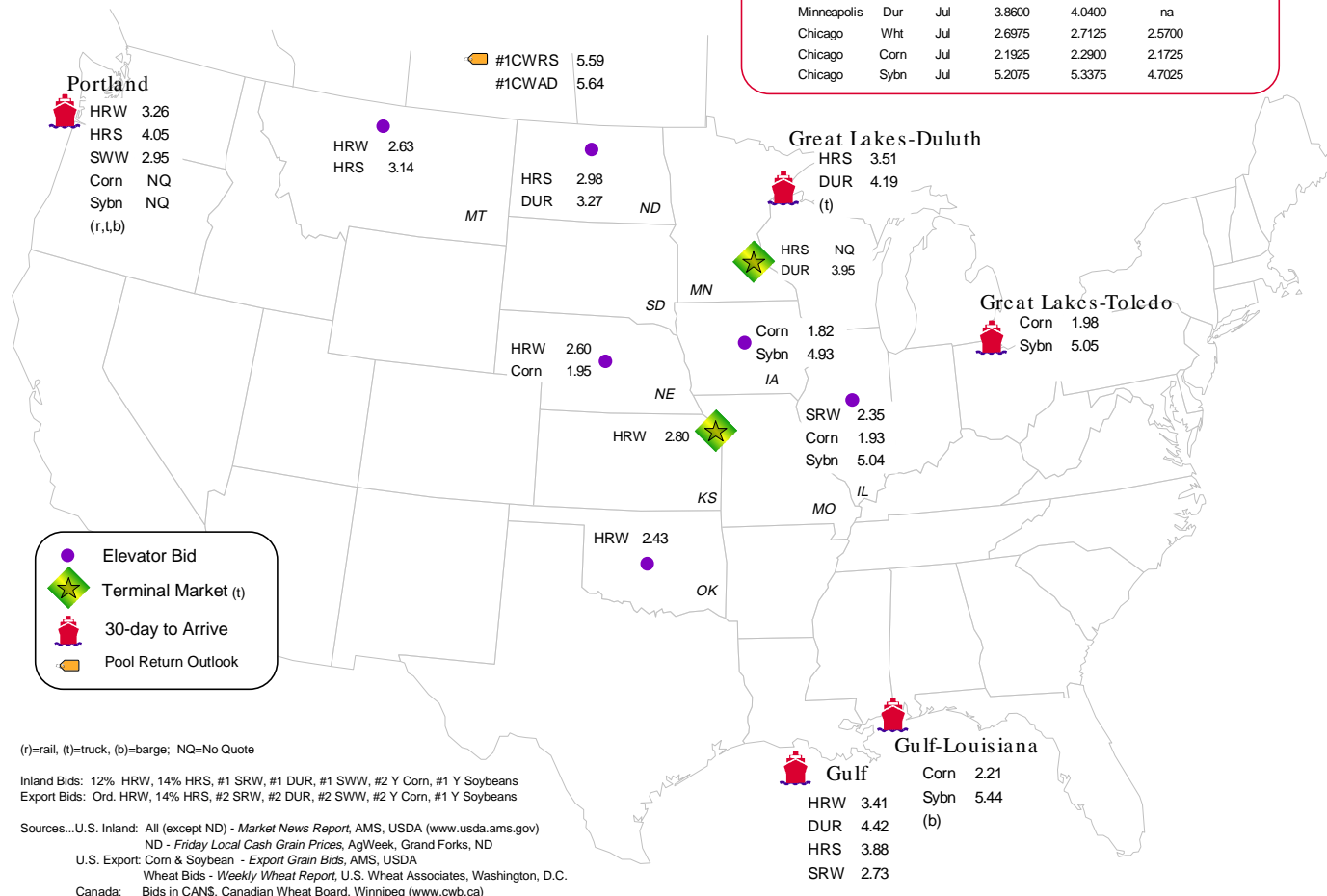
JUNE 13, 2000

| | | | |
|-------------|--|------------------------|--|
| June 14-16 | International Grains Conference, IGC2000 Conference | Regina, Sask., Can. | 306-708-8805 (ph) 306-780-7360 (fax) igc2000@em.agr.ca |
| June 18-22 | 117 th American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) Convention | San Francisco, CA | 202-638-3128 (ph) 202-638-3171 (fax) |
| June 19-20 | 2000 Legislative & Leadership Conf. of the Ag. Transporters Conference (ATC) | Washington, DC | Fletcher Hall 703-838-7999 (ph) |
| June 19-21 | Assessment of Upper Mississippi River- Illinois Waterway Navigation System Feasibility Study | Washington, DC | 202-334-3422 (ph) 202-334-1961 (fax) jjacobs@nas.edu |
| June 25-28 | International Food & Agribusiness Management Association | Chicago, IL | 409-845-2118 (ph) 409-862-1487 (fax) iama@tamu.edu |
| June 26-27 | Global Trade & Consumer Demand For Quality | Montreal, Quebec, Can. | Laura Bipes 612-625-1757 (ph) 612-625-6245 (fax) lbipes@dept.agecon.umn.edu |
| June 27-29 | U.S. Grains Council: "Meet Your Customer/Meet Your U.S. Supplier | Mexico City, Mexico | 202-789-0789 (ph) www.grains.org |
| July 21 | Ag. Transportation Coalition Annual Meeting (USDA/AgOTC) | San Francisco, CA | 202-467-8380 (ph) |
| July 23-26 | Conference on Transportation & Environment for the 21 st Century | Pittsburgh, PA | 202-334-2934 (ph) 202-334-2003 (fax) |
| July 23-26 | U.S. Grains Council 40 th Annual Board of Directors Meeting | Chicago, IL | 202-789-0789 (ph) 202-898-0522 (fax) grains@grains.org |
| Aug. 8 | American Institute For Shippers Assoc. (AISA)/USDA Export Excellence Seminar | Napa, CA | Glen Cella 202-628-0933 (ph) www.shippers.org |
| Sept. 17-20 | International Rail 2000 | Chicago, IL | 630-393-0108 (ph) rsainc@earthlink.net |
| Sept. 27-29 | National Waterways Conference | St. Louis, MO | 202-296-4415 (ph) |
| Oct. 16-20 | 89 th Annual American Association Of Port Authorities (AAPA) Convention | Veracruz, Mexico | 703-684-5700 (ph) 703-684-6321 (fax) info@aapa-ports.org |

Report is prepared by Karl Hacker, Agricultural Economist, Transportation & Marketing, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA (202) 690-1304. Report design by Kimberly Vachal, Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, North Dakota State University. You can retrieve this document from our Automatic Fax System by using the handset on your fax machine and dialing (202) 690-1707. This report can be found on the Internet at www.ams.usda.gov/tmd/grain.htm. E-mail comments to GTR@usda.gov.

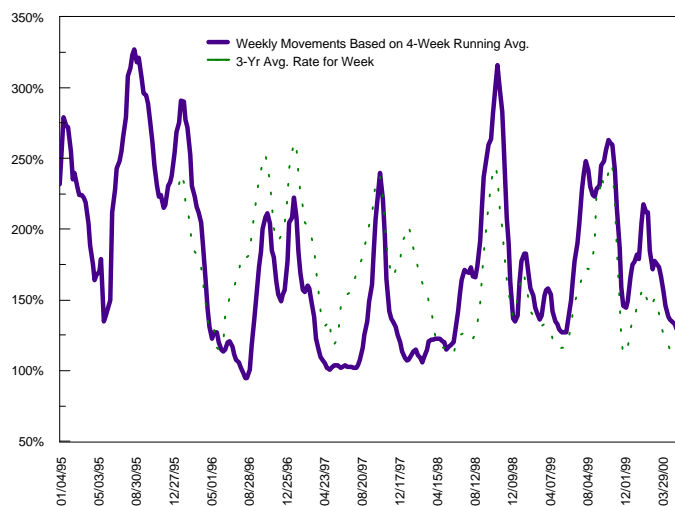
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Grain Bid Summary

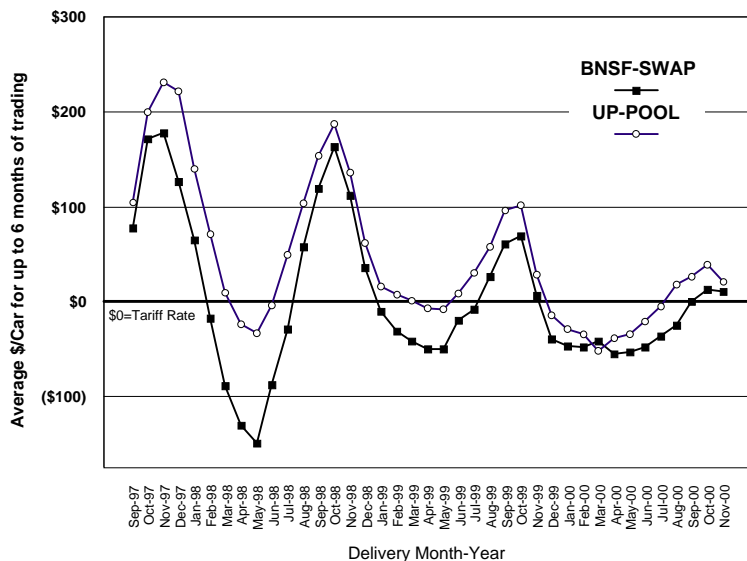


Spot Barge Rate - Illinois River

Index - Percent of Tariff Rate



Secondary Rail Market Bids



Rail Car 'Auction' Offerings

| Delivery for: | Jun-00 | | Aug-00 | |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| | <u>Offered</u> | <u>% Sold</u> | <u>Offered</u> | <u>% Sold</u> |
| BNSF-COT | 12,000 | 32% | 12,000 | 75% |
| UP-GCAS | 5,400 | 4% | 5,400 | 12% |
| Source: Transportation & Marketing /AMS/USDA; www.bnsf.com; www.uprr.com | | | | |

Secondary Rail Car Market

Average Premium/Discount to Tariff, \$/Car - Last Week

| | Delivery Period | | | |
|---------|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Jun-00 | Jul-00 | Aug-00 | Sep-00 |
| BNSF-GF | \$(74) | \$(25) | \$(6) | \$15 |
| UP-Pool | \$(31) | \$(30) | \$9 | \$20 |

Source: T&M/AMS/USDA. Data from Atwood/ConAgra., Harvest States Co-op, James B. Joiner Co., Tradewest Brokerage Co.;

GF=Guaranteed Freight, GEEP=Guaranteed Eqpt. Exchange, Pool=Guaranteed Pool

note... bids listed are market INDICATORS only & are NOT guaranteed prices, missing value=No Bid Quoted

Railroad Car 'Auction' Results

Average Premium/Discount to Tariff, \$/Car - Last Auction

| Delivery for: | Jul-00 | Aug-00 | Sep-00 |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------|
| COT/N. Grain | no bid | no bid | no bid |
| COT/S. Grain | no bid | no bid | no bid |
| GCAS/Region 2 | no bid | no bid | no bid |
| GCAS/Region 4 | no bid | no bid | no bid |

Source: T&M/AMS/USDA. Data from www.bnsf.com, www.uprr.com,
(COT=Certificate of Transportation; GCAS=Grain Car Allocation System)**Southbound Barge Freight Nominal Values**

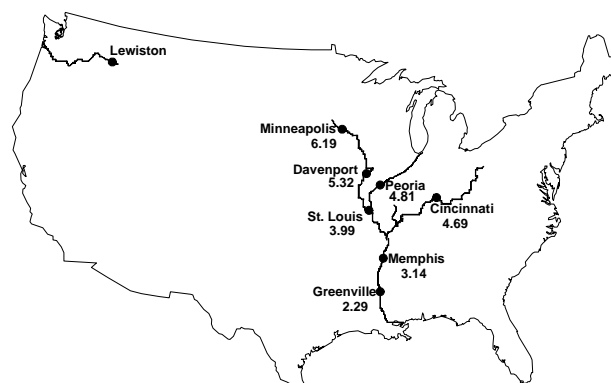
Index=Percent of Tariff, Based on 1976 Tariff Benchmark Rate

| Week ended | River/Region | Contract Period | Rate | |
|------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|-------|
| | | | Bid | Offer |
| 6/13/00 | Illinois River | wk 6/11 | 120 | 130 |
| | | July | 150 | 155 |
| | | Aug. | 175 | 185 |
| | | Sept. | 220 | 230 |
| | St. Louis | wk 6/11 | 110 | 120 |
| | | July | 120 | 140 |
| | | Aug. | 170 | 180 |
| | | Sept. | 195 | 205 |
| | Twin Cities | wk 6/11 | 165 | 170 |
| | | | 185 | 195 |

Summary Of Daily Barge Trades Reported To St. Louis Merchants Exchange.

Southbound Barge Freight Spot Rates

| | 6/7/00 | 5/31/00 | July '00 | Sept. '00 |
|-----------------|--------|---------|----------|-----------|
| Twin Cities | 162 | 163 | 191 | 253 |
| Mid-Mississippi | 133 | 133 | 159 | 226 |
| Illinois River | 115 | 119 | 151 | 222 |
| St. Louis | 103 | 102 | 127 | 196 |
| Lower Ohio | 109 | 108 | 135 | 220 |
| Cairo-Memphis | 103 | 103 | 123 | 197 |

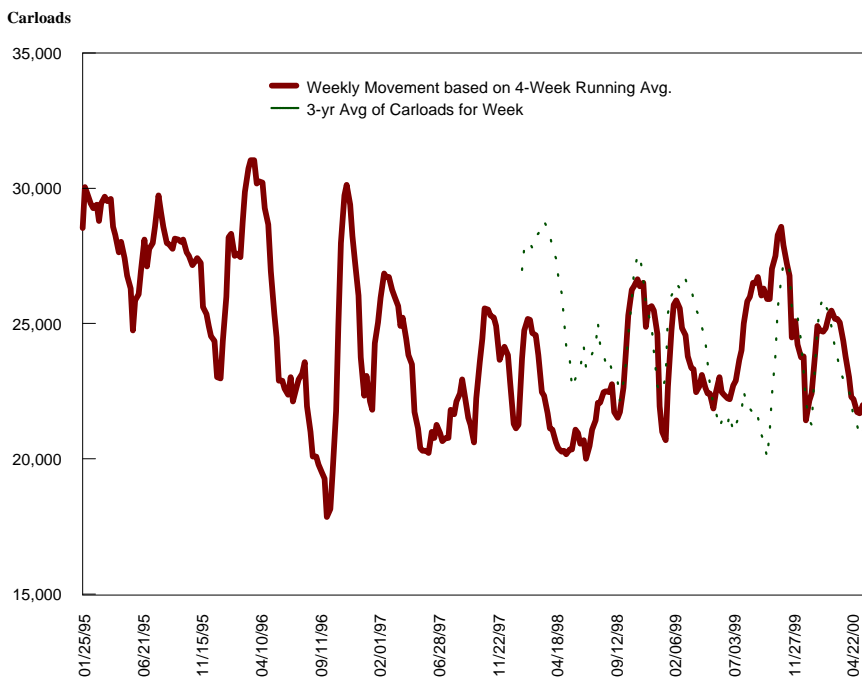
Source: Transportation & Marketing /AMS/USDA
nq=no quote**Barge Benchmark Tariff Rates
Est. 1976 - 'Tariff No. 7'**

Grain Car Loadings for Class I Railroads

| Class I Railroad Grain Car Loadings | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Week Ending: | Carloads |
| 5/20/00 | 22,598 |
| 5/27/00 | 22,269 |
| 6/3/00 | 19,879 |
| Year to Date - 2000 | 520,716 |
| Year to Date - 1999 | 516,322 |
| Total 1999 | 1,269,741 |

**1998 - 52 weeks

* 1997 - 53 weeks



Class I Rail Carrier Grain Car Bulletin

Carloads

| | | | East | | West | | | Canada | |
|---------------------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Conrail | CSXT | IC | NS | BNSF | KCS | UP | CN | CP |
| 06/03/00 | 0 | 2,766 | 1,586 | 2,934 | 6,216 | 437 | 5,940 | 2,230 | 4,042 |
| This Week Last Year | 105 | 2,266 | 1,969 | 2,909 | 6,199 | 618 | 6,947 | 2,249 | 3,817 |
| 2000 YTD | 0 | 63,010 | 39,006 | 64,880 | 173,516 | 12,712 | 167,592 | 60,089 | 98,055 |
| 1999 YTD | 15,522 | 54,573 | 34,270 | 57,545 | 173,912 | 15,934 | 164,566 | 46,197 | 74,177 |
| 1999 Total | 15,522 | 132,157 | 88,056 | 138,379 | 465,088 | 33,911 | 398,262 | 121,381 | 206,328 |
| 1998 Total | 40,192 | 126,128 | 77,811 | 131,158 | 431,459 | 34,503 | 342,609 | 113,568 | 215,005 |

Source: Association of American Railroads

**1998 - 52 weeks

* 1997 - 53 weeks

Tariff Rail Rates for Unit Train Shipments

June 2000

| Date Effective | Tariff Item | Commodity | Origin | Destination | Rate Per Car | Rate Per MT | Rate/Per Bushel* |
|----------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|------------------|
| 06/05/00 | 45560 | Wheat | Minneapolis, MN | Houston, TX | \$2,050 | \$22.60 | \$0.62 |
| 06/05/00 | 43521 | Wheat | Minneapolis, MN | Portland, OR | \$3,877 | \$42.74 | \$1.16 |
| 06/05/00 | 46540 | Wheat | Kansas City, MO | Houston, TX | \$1,550 | \$17.09 | \$0.47 |
| 06/05/00 | 43586 | Wheat | Kansas City, MO | Portland, OR | \$4,133 | \$45.56 | \$1.24 |
| 06/05/00 | 43581 | Wheat | Omaha, NE | Portland, OR | \$3,805 | \$41.94 | \$1.14 |
| 06/05/00 | 31040 | Corn | Minneapolis, MN | Portland, OR | \$3,000 | \$33.07 | \$0.84 |
| 06/05/00 | 31035 | Corn | Kansas City, MO | Portland, OR | \$2,600 | \$28.66 | \$0.73 |
| 06/05/00 | 31040 | Corn | Omaha, NE | Portland, OR | \$2,615 | \$28.82 | \$0.73 |
| 06/05/00 | 61180 | Soybean | Minneapolis, MN | Portland, OR | \$2,880 | \$31.75 | \$0.86 |
| 06/05/00 | 61180 | Soybean | Omaha, NE | Portland, OR | \$2,480 | \$27.34 | \$0.74 |
| 05/01/98 | 61180 | Soybean | Omaha, NE | Portland, OR | \$2,780 | \$25.23 | \$0.83 |

Source: www.bnsf.com

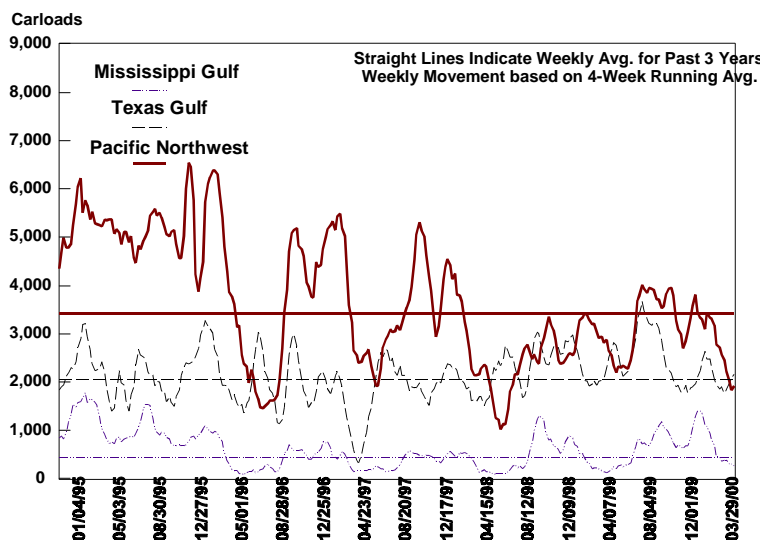
Approximate load per car = 100 tons: Corn 56 lbs/bu, Wheat & Soybeans 60 lbs/bu

Rail Deliveries to Port

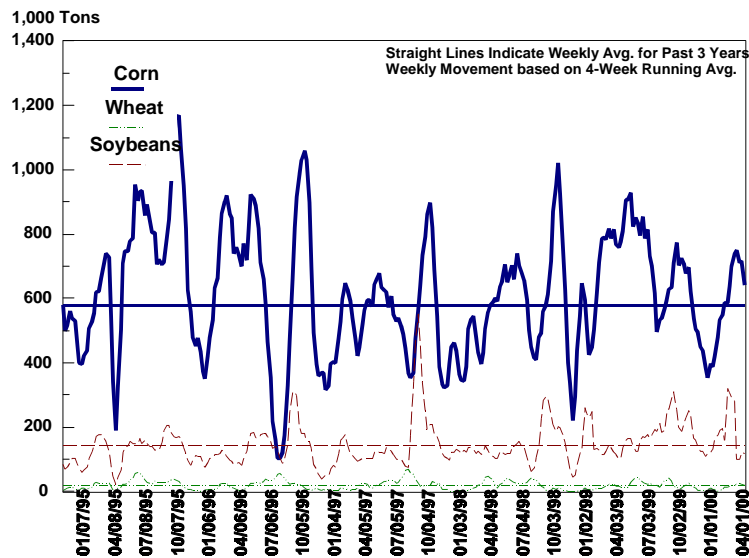
Carloads

| | Mississippi Gulf | Texas Gulf | Pacific Northwest | Atlantic & East Gulf |
|--------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Week Ending: | | | | |
| 04/26/00 | 302 | 1,940 | 2,385 | 233 |
| 05/03/00 | 402 | 1,508 | 2,139 | 76 |
| 05/10/00 | 206 | 1,932 | 1,666 | 119 |
| 05/17/00 | 311* | 2,518 | 1,895 | 50 |
| 05/24/00 | 308* | 2,400 | 1,693* | 153 |
| 05/31/00 | 210 | 1,789 | 2,450 | 368 |
| YTD 2000 | 16,416 | 46,008 | 63,155 | 7,355 |
| YTD 1999 | 9,559 | 52,626 | 63,498 | 7,121 |
| Total 1998 | 23,844 | 115,321 | 138,461 | 12,505 |
| Total 1997 | 20,152 | 93,265 | 195,953 | 9,147 |

Source: Transportation & Marketing/AMS/USDA

Rail Deliveries to Port

*Revised Data

Barge Movements - Locks 27**Barge Grain Movements**

for week ending 6/03/00

| | Corn | Wht | Sybn | Total |
|----------------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1,000 Tons | | | | |
| Mississippi River | | | | |
| Rock Island, IL (L15) | 390 | 3 | 75 | 475 |
| Winfield, MO (L25) | 262 | 3 | 39 | 328 |
| Alton, IL (L26) | 406 | 8 | 68 | 505 |
| Granite City, IL (L27) | 427 | 19 | 68 | 537 |
| Illinois River (L8) | 132 | 3 | 35 | 171 |
| Ohio (L52) | 25 | 1 | 12 | 44 |
| Arkansas (L1) | 0 | 16 | 12 | 28 |
| 2000 YTD | 13,192 | 791 | 3,824 | 18,599 |
| 1999 YTD | 14,531 | 1,014 | 3,057 | 20,081 |
| Total 1999 | 36,711 | 2,883 | 9,771 | 51,887 |
| Total 1998 | 31,001 | 2,401 | 8,674 | 45,134 |

Miss YTD: Calendar year totals include Miss/27, Ohio/52 and Ark/1.
Source: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers

U.S. Export Balances (1,000 Metric Tons)

| | <i>HRW</i> | <i>SRW</i> | <i>HRS</i> | <u>Wheat</u> <i>SWW</i> | <i>DUR</i> | <i>All</i> | <u>Corn</u> | <u>Soybean</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| <u>Unshipped Exports-Crop Year</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| 06/01/00 | 871 | 715 | 778 | 500 | 179 | 3,041 | 7,592 | 2,461 | 13,094 |
| This Week Year Ago | 1,244 | 351 | 902 | 402 | 197 | 3,094 | 8,966 | 2,204 | 14,264 |
| <u>Cumulative Exports-Crop Year</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| 99/00 YTD | 33 | 4 | 41 | 0 | 0 | 78 | 36,586 | 22,714 | 59,378 |
| 98/99 YTD | 76 | 63 | 49 | 29 | 10 | 227 | 35,737 | 17,713 | 53,677 |
| 97/98 Total | 9,858 | 4,710 | 6,305 | 5,413 | 1,232 | 27,518 | 37,220 | 24,516 | 89,254 |
| 96/97 Total | 7,387 | 3,645 | 7,864 | 6,105 | 963 | 25,965 | 44,476 | 24,501 | 94,942 |

Source: Foreign Agricultural Service YTD-Year-to-Date (www.fas.usda.gov) Crop Year:Wheat=5/31-6/01, Corn & Soybeans=9/01-8/31**Select U.S. Port Regions - Gain Inspections for Export - 1,000 Metric Tons**

| | <u>Pacific Region</u> | | | <u>Mississippi Gulf</u> | | | <u>Texas Gulf</u> | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------|
| | <i>Wheat</i> | <i>Corn</i> | <i>Soybean</i> | <i>Wheat</i> | <i>Corn</i> | <i>Soybean</i> | <i>Wheat</i> | <i>Corn</i> | <i>Soybean</i> |
| 06/08/00 | 200 | 88 | 17 | 124 | 750 | 245 | 163 | 0 | 0 |
| 2000 YTD | 4,169 | 3,293 | 689 | 2,684 | 14,587 | 8,165 | 2,782 | 169 | 772 |
| 1999 YTD * | 4,560 | 3,332 | 103 | 2,696 | 14,612 | 6,461 | 3,293 | 279 | 676 |
| % of Last Year | 38% | 75% | 106% | 53% | 47% | 55% | 38% | 30% | 55% |
| 1998 Total | 10,838 | 4,373 | 651 | 5,048 | 31,330 | 14,917 | 7,270 | 562 | 1,392 |

Source: Federal Grain Inspection Service * YTD-Year-to-Date (*98 = 53 week period)

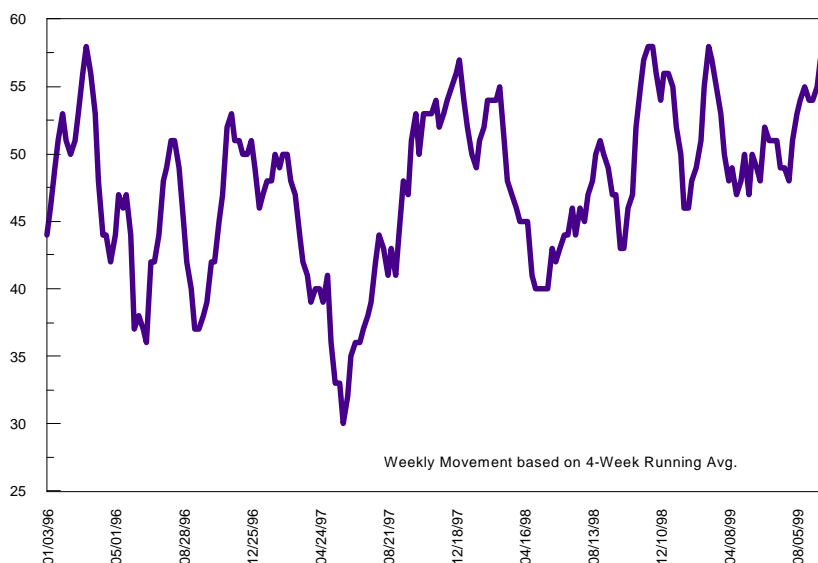
Select Canadian Ports - Export Inspections

1,000 Metric Tons, Crop Year

| | <u>Wheat</u> | <u>Durum</u> | <u>Barley</u> |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Week Ended: 6/08/00 | | | |
| Vancouver | 5,082 | 724 | 831 |
| Prince Rupert | 3,157 | 3 | 109 |
| Prairie Direct | 929 | 265 | 354 |
| Thunder Bay | 692 | 299 | 218 |
| St. Lawrence | 2,291 | 1,642 | 0 |
| 1999 YTD Exports | 12,151 | 2,933 | 1,517 |
| 1998 YTD Exports | 8,714 | 3,053 | 863 |
| % of Last Year | 139% | 96% | 176% |

Source: Canadian Grains Commission
YTD-Year-to-Date Crop Year 8/1-7/31

Vessels



**Gulf Region
Vessels Loaded
- Past 7 Days-**

Port Region Ocean Grain Vessels

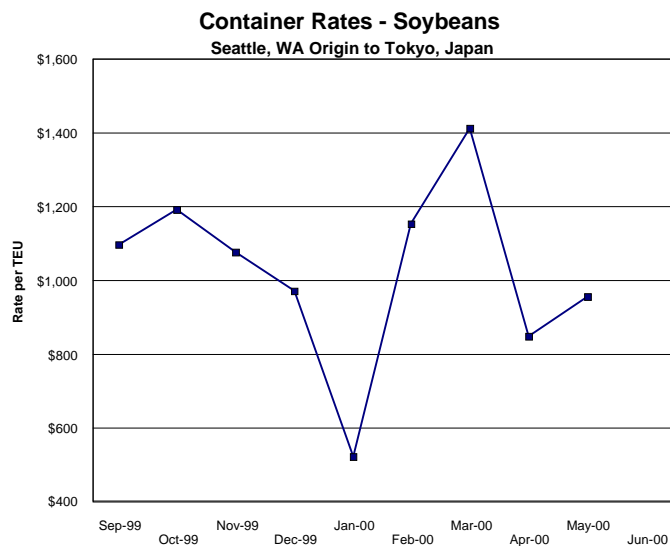
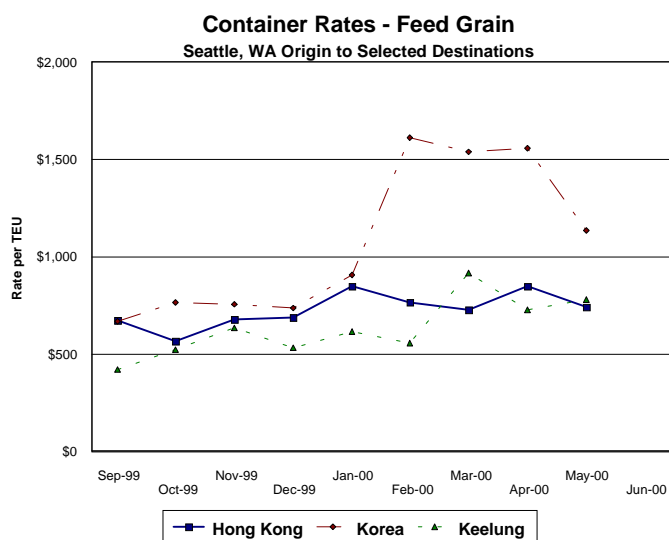
| | Gulf | | | Pacific Northwest | | | Vancouver, B.C. | | |
|------------|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | <u>In Port</u> | <u>Loaded 7-Days</u> | <u>Due Next 10-Days</u> | <u>In Port</u> | <u>Loaded 7-Days</u> | <u>Due Next 10-Days</u> | <u>In Port</u> | <u>Loaded 7-Days</u> | <u>Due Next 10-Days</u> |
| 06/01/00 | 23 | 43 | 56 | 11 | | | 6 | 7 | 3 |
| 06/08/00 | 25 | 51 | 53 | 11 | | | 11 | 10 | 1 |
| 1999 Range | (14..47) | (39..65) | (34..80) | (6..18) | | | (2..20) | (2..15) | (0..9) |
| 1998 Range | (19..62) | (34..64) | (40..93) | | | | (1..19) | (3..14) | (0..10) |
| 1999 Avg | 32 | 52 | 65 | | | | 9 | 9 | 3 |
| 1998 Avg | 40 | 48 | 61 | | | | 10 | 9 | 3 |
| 1997 Avg | 33 | 45 | 58 | | | | | | |

Source: Transportation & Marketing /AMS/ USDA

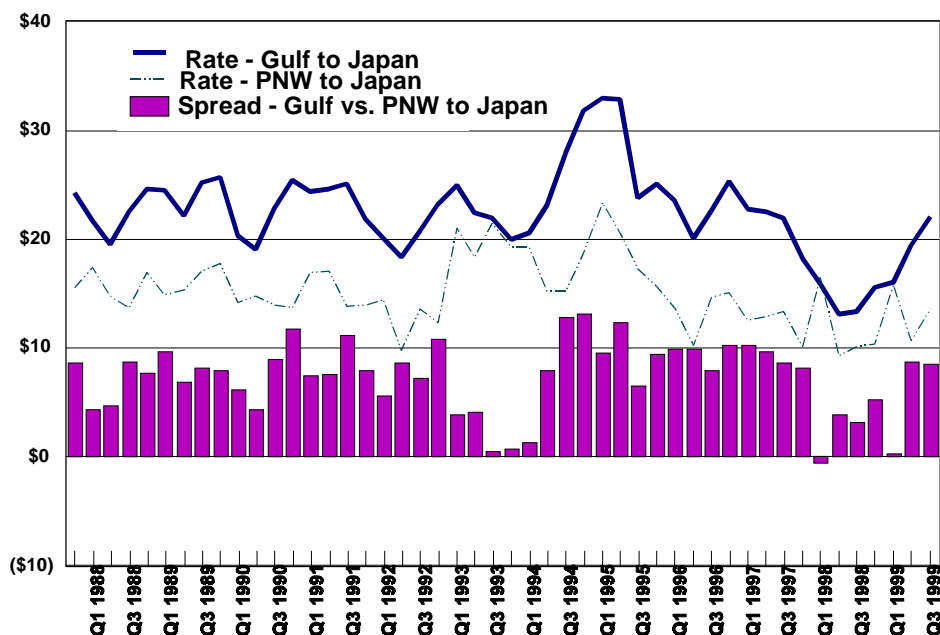
Container Ocean Freight Rates

Monthly Weighted Averages Based on Shipping Line Monthly Mkt. Share

Source: Transportation & Marketing/AMS/USDA



US\$/Metric Ton



Quarterly Ocean Freight Rates

Quarterly Ocean Freight Rates

Average Rates & Percentage Changes, U.S. Dollars/Metric Ton - Basis

| | 2000 1 st Qtr | 1999 1 st Qtr | % Change | | 2000 1 st Qtr | 1999 1 st Qtr | % Change |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Gulf to | | | | Pacific NW to | | | |
| Japan | \$19.46 | \$13.17 | 48% | Japan | \$10.71 | \$9.35 | 15% |
| Mexico | \$14.97 | \$16.33 | -8% | Red Sea/ Arabian Sea | | | |
| Venezuela | \$12.64 | \$10.30 | 23% | | | | |
| N. Europe | \$13.31 | \$8.85 | 50% | Argentina to | | | |
| N. Africa | \$18.20 | \$13.87 | 31% | N. Europe | \$13.94 | \$12.15 | 15% |
| | | | | Japan | \$23.00 | \$16.21 | 42% |

Source: Transportation & Marketing/AMS/USDA; (*) rates shown are for metric ton (2,204.62 lbs.=one metric ton)

Ocean Freight Rates (Select Locations) - week ending 6/3/00

| Export Region | Import Region | Grain | Month | Volume Loaded (Tons) | Freight Rate (\$/Ton) |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Gulf | Dominican Republic | Corn/Meals | Spot | 18,000/8,800 | \$12.50 |
| Gulf | Cyprus | Wheat | Spot | 25,000 | \$17.85 |
| Gulf | Egypt (Med.) | Heavy Grain | Jun5/12 | 44,000 | \$14.55 |
| Gulf | Egypt | Wheat | Jun10/20 | 45,000 | \$16.50 |
| Gulf | Egypt | Wheat | Jun20/25 | 55,000/60,000 | \$16.50 |
| Gulf | Morocco | Heavy Grain | Prompt | 20,000 | \$20.50 |
| Gulf | Philippines | Meals | Jul1/10 | 55,000 | \$22.80 |
| Rostock (Germany) | Saudi Arabia | Barley | Jun12/15 | 55,000 | \$17.50 |

Source: Maritime Research Inc.; rates shown are for long ton (2,240 lbs.=one long ton), F.O.B., except where otherwise indicated; op=option